

April 10, 1862.

Dear Garrison:

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May I "bores" you a  
little, for the cause's sake?  
It is a settled thing that you  
will have to write the resolutions  
for our Annual Meeting. No-  
body else can do it so well,  
and no one else will think of  
attempting it. I need not tell  
you, <sup>how very</sup> important it is that our  
Society should this year speak  
the right word in the right  
way. Much depends upon it.  
Every phrase is to be considered

and weighed with reference  
to the claims of the cause and  
our own position before the  
country. Everybody will instinc-  
tively turn to you to do this  
work, and I am sure that  
you will feel ~~an~~ <sup>an</sup> inward  
call to it as imperative as  
<sup>any that ever</sup>  
~~every~~ stirred your heart. Bear  
with me, dear Garrison, if I en-  
treat you, in view of the great  
importance of the crisis, to see  
to it that the work is all  
done before you leave home.  
You know how next to impossible  
it is to do it after you arrive  
here, and <sup>how</sup> strong the probability,

if you neglect it till then, that you  
will only half do it, <sup>and</sup> thus ~~open~~ <sup>open</sup>  
the way for the introduction of  
unwise resolutions from other  
sources. It would be a great  
calamity if, when we come  
together, we should be in the  
condition that the Albany Con-  
vention was last winter, and  
waste our time in such dis-  
cussion as occupied too large a  
share of the attention of that  
meeting. You know all P. Q.'s  
peculiarities, how ready he will  
be to rush into an open gap  
with his extravagant rhetoric,  
and put us into a false po-  
sition. You can save us from

this danger, but only by doing  
the work thoroughly, and making  
your resolutions cover all essen-  
tial points and say all that  
needs to be said. You know  
just how far it will do for  
us to go in the direction that  
D. P. would lead us; and if  
you will put in <sup>proper</sup> shape the  
needed criticisms of the govern-  
ment, not sparing censure where  
it is deserved, but showing proper  
discrimination, we shall have no  
difficulty in carrying with us  
the common sense of the Society.  
If necessary (as I should think it would  
be), give up your paper to Whipple  
for a week or more before the

time. If you were to take a whole week, or even a fortnight, to consider the subject and prepare the resolutions, it would be time well spent, and all our friends would so regard it. We want this year to be heard through the press, and you know how much more likely we ~~are~~ <sup>shall be</sup> to succeed in this if the resolutions are nicely printed beforehand and furnished promptly to the reporters, saving them from the labor and confusion of copying. Now, dear Garrison, do try, for this once, to get all the resolutions written

in time to get them into the hands  
of the Standard printers on Monday  
day morning. We will set them  
up on that day, return ~~to~~ a  
clip to ~~you~~ <sup>the Liberator</sup> by the evening mail,  
and be ready to supply all  
the reporters on Tuesday morn-  
ing. If you will do this, you  
will not only serve the cause  
in a very important particular,  
but promote your own personal  
comfort, as you will then be  
relieved of a great care and  
burden and be able to enjoy  
the meeting as it proceeds.

Pardon me, dear Garrison,

for writing thus to you. I hope I am  
not impertinent in so doing, but  
if I am, it is because I am anxious  
that our meeting should this year  
do its work wisely and well.

Mary Anne is not well,  
though able to be about. She  
joins me in love to you and  
all your household.

Yours, faithfully,

Oliver Johnson

Is it not worth considering, whether  
the American Society, in view of the  
solemn crisis in which it is placed,  
would not do better to put most  
of what it has to offer in the

form of an address rather than  
of resolutions? I merely make  
the suggestion.

O. J. N. Y. April 10, 1860.